

**Bonneville Power Administration
Fish and Wildlife Program FY98 Watershed Proposal Form**

Section 1. General administrative information

Title **Wild Steelhead Broodstock - Lower
Columbia River, Cowlitz River**

Bonneville project number, if an ongoing project 8059

Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

Business acronym (if appropriate) WDFW

Proposal contact person or principal investigator:

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Subcontractors.

Organization	Mailing Address	City, ST Zip	Contact Name

NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses.

NMFS Biological Opinion Number(s) which this project addresses.

Other planning document references.

Subbasin.

Lower Columbia River, Cowlitz River

Short description.

Protect Wild Steelhead Broodstock

Section 2. Key words

Mark	Programmatic Categories	Mark	Activities	Mark	Project Types
X	Anadromous fish		Construction	X	Watershed
	Resident fish		O & M		Biodiversity/genetics
	Wildlife		Production		Population dynamics
	Oceans/estuaries		Research		Ecosystems
	Climate		Monitoring/eval.		Flow/survival
	Other		Resource mgmt		Fish disease
			Planning/admin.		Supplementation
		X	Enforcement		Wildlife habitat en-
			Acquisitions		hancement/restoration

Other keywords.

Compliance rate, retention of wild fish, safeguard broodstock

Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects

Project #	Project title/description	Nature of relationship

Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules

Briefly describe measurable objectives and the tasks needed to complete each objective. Use Column 1 to assign numbers to objectives (for reference in the next table), and Column 3 to assign letters to tasks. Use Columns 2 and 4 for the descriptive text. Objectives do not need to be listed in any particular order, and need only be listed once, even if there are multiple tasks for a single objective. List only one task per row; if you need more rows, press Alt-Insert from within this table.

Obj 1,2, 3	Objective	Task a,b,c	Task
1	Determine compliance rate with wild steelhead release rule	a.	Systematic angler checks - 2/15 thru 3/15/98 -Cowlitz River
		b.	Systematic angler checks - 7/15 thru 9/15/98 - Columbia River
2	Protect broodstock	a.	Emphasis on spawning areas 1/15 thru 2/15/98 in selected watersheds
		b.	Emphasis on spawning areas - winter wild fish 3/15 to 5/15/98.
		c..	Closed waters emphasis 9/1 to 11/15/98.
3	Stop illicit fisheries - which includes wild fish.	a.	Covert contacts with stakeholders: Wholesale dealers; fishers; charters; guides during 1998.
		b.	Monthly progress report and coordinated enforcement effort to stop illicit activity.
4	Educate public - wild fish	a.	Present series on the need for wild fish survival in watershed communities.

Objective schedules and costs

Objective #	Start Date mm/yyyy	End Date mm/yyyy	Cost %
1	02/1998 07/1998	03/1998 09/1998	52
2	01/1998 03/1998	02/1998 05/1998	13
3	01/1998	12/1998	19
4	01/1998	12/1998	16

Schedule constraints.

Completion date.

1999

Section 5. Budget

List FY99 budget amounts for each category. If an item needs more explanation, provide it in the Note column. If the project uses PIT tags, include the cost (\$2.90/tag). **Be sure to enter a total on the last line: this is the amount of your budget request.**

Item	Note	FY98
Personnel	20 to 40% of 6 FTE from Det 4	63,140
Fringe benefits		15,400
Supplies, materials, non-expendable property	New wild steelhead protection series would be developed for public presentations.	
Operations & maintenance	Patrol vehicles during activity	12,320
Capital acquisitions or improvements (e.g. land, buildings, major equip.)		
PIT tags	# of tags: NA	
Travel	This is in addition to normal duties	1,540
Indirect costs		17,556
Subcontracts		
Other		
TOTAL		109,956

Outyear costs

Outyear costs	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
Total budget				
O&M as % of total				

Section 6. Abstract

To participate in the recovery plan for wild steelhead in the Lower Columbia River ESU, which is under delayed listing by NMFS. The Lower Columbia ESU efforts are directed to restoration of wild salmonid populations in the upper Cowlitz watershed and main stem upriver stocks. BPA has investments in a hydro-electric project at Cowlitz Falls. Coordinated ground emphasis patrols to determine the rate of compliance with wild fish release rules, utilizing a statistical design developed by the Fish Management Program. Coordinated ground emphasis to safeguard broodstock during vulnerable periods. During the emphasis officers will inventory additional water withdrawal sites for the on-going screen project funded by BPA. Bring compliance rate on wild fish release to 95%; broodstock survival to 90% on the spawning grounds in selected subbasins. As more water withdrawal sites are identified and brought into compliance with screening requirements, smolt survival will increase. Increase voluntary compliance by educating public with developed media series focus at selected age groups. Ground emphasis patrols and public education monitored on a monthly basis providing a quarterly and annual report.

The project will include main stem Lower Columbia emphasis patrol on summer recreational fisheries to determine the rate of compliance with wild steelhead release. This effort will provide protection and information concerning the Upper Columbia Steelhead ESU (listed as endangered) and the Snake River Basin Steelhead ESU (listed as threatened)

Section 7. Project description

a. Technical and/or scientific background.

This project is an advanced effort of known wild steelhead retention problems on the main stem and the Cowlitz subbasin. The holistic model or program of wild salmonid survival relates to increasing smolt survival by increasing screen rule compliance at pumping stations and assuring adult survival by emphasis monitoring of fisheries to assure non - retention of main stem and subbasin wild salmonids.

The most significant Lower Columbia main stem inventory of pumping stations started in January 1995, identified 36 major stations with a 63% non-compliance rate. Each station was contacted by an officer and given copies of current screening laws. Divers were contracted to do the deep water inspections. This project was extended to the tributaries on the Lower Columbia River in 1996 with a completion expected by spring of 1998. This effort was not possible with current staff levels.

The focused monitoring of fishers on the main stem and Cowlitz River with the close monitoring of spawning areas is the logical follow through to assure adult survival. The education component will bring, with the enforcement emphasis on fishers and landowners of the pumping stations, compliance of laws up resulting in increased survival of smolts and adult wild salmonids.

b. Proposal objectives.

Consistent with NMFS restoration planning:

1. Determine angler compliance with wild steelhead release regulation in lower Columbia River main stem and the Cowlitz River. Bring compliance up to 95%. Provide information for fisheries ESA consultation with NMFS.
2. Monitor closed water spawning grounds to protect vulnerable broodstock - loss of broodstock 5% or less.
3. Covert activity to stop illicit commercial fishery.
Monthly activity reports would be summarized quarterly with an annual report.
4. Develop media program on wild steelhead survival. Introduce into public forum April 1998.

c. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs.

Completion of this project will enhance efforts in the lower main stem to increase survival of returning adult wild steelhead and survival of spawning fish in selected subbasins. Covert activity into illicit commercial fisheries will identify specific locations of trafficking in salmonids - this is the keys to stopping this illicit fishery. Enforcement staff developing and presenting a media program to our basin communities on the critical need of wild fish survival will bring public attitude in harmony with FWP objectives. The focused effort to monitor sport fishing in the main stem and Cowlitz subbasin will be an example of how to improve survival of returning adults which achieves FWP objectives.

d. Project history

Type here (provide answers in paragraph form)

e. Methods. *Each proposer should complete the methods section with an objective assessment of factors that may limit success of the project and/or critical linkages of the proposal with other work (e.g., a smolt monitoring program, etc.).*

Objective 1. Officers check all anglers in selected area and document success rate and retention of wild fish. Use statistical design developed by Fish Management to assess the effectiveness of overt activity to increase compliance to 95%. Assumption is that compliance rate is less than 95%. This is a heavy use fishery. Sample size will vary from 25 to 50 anglers contacted per day; for 30 days in each time frame. Sample size is based on what our staff checks in a normal eight hour day effort. The continued presence of law enforcement on the fishery will produce an increased compliance toward releasing wild adults.

Objective 2. Officers will focus a monitoring effort on closed water spawning areas to assure vulnerable broodstock survive. Currently staff is reactionary to citizen complaints of harassment to broodstock. This proposal will assure progressive staff time allocated to this need. Citizen complaints document illegal take of broodstock by snagging, spearing, netting and pipe bombs. Most citizen complaints are untimely, lack specific identification to identify suspects, or do not know who to report information. Increased officer presence will achieve increased survival of wild steelhead broodstock.

Objective 3. Coordinate covert and overt contacts with wholesale dealers, commercial fishers, charters and guides to determine catch rates for sport fishers and illicit commercial fisheries. This is a routine effort today. The proposal will fund a emphasis on the lower Columbia River main stem. This effort will protect upriver stocks as well as lower river subbasin stocks.

Objective 4. Enforcement staff will actually design and produce a media presentation to educate public on the value of wild fish to the ecosystem. Raising the public awareness of this value will change public attitude from “we have to have it” to “we want to have it”.

f. Facilities and equipment.

All specialized equipment was obtained through the first CBLEC grant. Routine maintenance is the on-going costs of vehicles, aircraft, boats, surveillance vehicle and cameras, night vision equipment and media equipment.

g. References.

Type here (provide answers in paragraph form)

Section 8. Relationships to other projects

FWP funded the CBLEC grant for enhanced law enforcement work first on the main stem Columbia River and then expanded to the basin. This proposal, in one section of the lower main stem and one subbasin, continues the holistic strategy of protecting anadromous stocks and wild fish from gravel to gravel. The focused effort on the lower main stem will give FWP an updated picture of what is actually occurring in the fisheries of returning adults. A critical component of the CBLEC grant was the pump station inventory (smolt protection) to measure compliance with screen requirements. This will be completed in mid 1998. This proposal will assist in completing the Cowlitz River inventory and the follow up compliance program on the main stem. Our goal is 95% voluntary compliance in the Columbia River basin by the year 2000. The Enforcement Program presence doing the inventory and assisting Habitat Managers will the follow up is the key to compliance. Enforcement staff will assist with the inventory will conducting the wild fish compliance checks. The media program on wild fish protection will continue on from the CBLEC grant public education component to a more aggressive presentation format given to basin and subbasin communities.

Section 9. Key personnel

Detachment 4 staff: Project Manager is the detachment sergeant. Staff includes six officers. Staff needs to be supplemented by Detachment 5, Habitat and Fish Management staff from WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE southwest office in Vancouver. Main stem monitoring will be coordinated with Oregon State Police staff.

Section 10. Information/technology transfer

Work will be document using CBLEC Individual Officer Activity Reports and agency activity reports. NMFS maintains the CBLEC data base. Monthly, quarterly and annual reports are produced.